



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 1202

January Session, 2011

* ____SB01202APP__050511____ *

AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE'S HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Department of Public
2 Health, in collaboration with the Department of Higher Education, the
3 Labor Department, the Office of Workforce Competitiveness, The
4 University of Connecticut, The University of Connecticut School of
5 Medicine, The University of Connecticut School of Dentistry, the
6 Connecticut State University System and the regional community-
7 technical college system, shall, within existing budgetary resources,
8 develop an initiative to address the state's health care workforce
9 shortage. Such initiative shall seek to increase the number of health
10 care workers in the state through the offering of expanded and
11 enhanced educational programs at public institutions of higher
12 education. The initiative shall include, but not be limited to, the
13 following: (1) Expansion of existing health care related academic
14 programs to promote increased enrollment and retention of students in
15 such programs; (2) development of alternative academic programs that
16 are designed to assimilate displaced workers and other individuals
17 considering a career change into the health care workforce; (3)
18 recruitment and retention of underserved populations into the health
19 care workforce; (4) the establishment of collaborative relationships
20 between health care professions that will assist in improving access to
21 health care; (5) development of distance learning initiatives; (6)

22 mechanisms for ensuring that a health care professional is practicing at
 23 such professional's highest level of competency; (7) streamlined
 24 processes within the Department of Public Health which ensure that
 25 out-of-state professionals with licensing credentials that are
 26 substantially similar to those required by the Department of Public
 27 Health are able to expeditiously obtain licensure in this state in order
 28 to alleviate workforce shortage areas; and (8) development of on-the-
 29 job training initiatives that are designed to provide valuable work
 30 experience to those receiving the training and assist in alleviating
 31 health care workforce shortages, particularly in areas of the state with
 32 underserved populations.

33 (b) Not later than January 1, 2013, the Commissioner of Public
 34 Health shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a
 35 of the general statutes, on the initiative to the joint standing
 36 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
 37 relating to higher education and employment advancement, public
 38 health and labor and public employees.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

APP *Joint Favorable Subst.*